

Application Serial No. 09/765,965 - Filed January 19, 2001

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REMARKS

Claims 1-54 were pending. Claims 1, 7, 15, 20, 31, 39, 45 and 51 have been amended for clarification purposes. Therefore, claims 1-54 remain pending subsequent entry of the present amendment.

In the present Office Action, claims 1-8, 10-16, 18-22, 25-36, 39-52 and 54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,480,667 (hereinafter "O'Connor"). In addition, claims 9, 17, 23-24, 37-38 and 53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Connor in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,289,165 (hereinafter "Abecassis"). Applicant respectfully traverses the above rejections. Nevertheless, Applicant has amended the claims in order to further clarify the nature of the presently claimed invention in order facilitate a more speedy allowance of the present application.

In the present Office Action, the examiner states that O'Connor discloses the above recited plurality of perspectives. In particular, Fig. 8 of O'Connor is cited as disclosing these features. Fig. 8 of O'Connor discloses "an example of a display screen 800 which displays several image frames taken from the video stream at different times." Accordingly, image frames taken at different times are equated with the recited plurality of perspectives of a program. However, as Applicant previously argued, it is believed clear from both the claims and the description that the recited perspectives do not refer to different times in the program. For example, claim 1 recites a method which includes:

"presenting a first perspective of the plurality of perspectives to a viewer, said first perspective comprising a first perspective of a portion of the program;

...
providing input from a viewer which indicates a desire to replay the portion of the program from a second perspective of the plurality of perspectives;
identifying in the first perspective a first point in time in the program which corresponds to the beginning of said portion, responsive to the input;
automatically determining a second point in time in the second perspective, wherein the second point in time comprises an approximation of the first point in time in the program; and

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presenting the portion of the program from the second perspective to the viewer beginning at the second point in time." (emphasis added).

Applicant believes it is clear from the language above that different times in the program are not what is claimed. As recited, it is desired to replay the portion from a second perspective. If a different time in the program is selected, then the portion is not being replayed. The claim further recites identifying the beginning of the portion, generally determining the same beginning point of the same portion from a second perspective, and presenting the same portion from the second perspective. Clearly, these are all referring to the same portion, and not to different times in the program.

Nevertheless, Applicant has amended the claim to clarify that each of the perspectives provide "a view of a given scene from a different angle." While it is believed this was already clear from the claims and description, this clarifying language serves to avoid the interpretation provided in the office action. O'Connor neither discloses nor suggests such features. Therefore, claim 1 is patentably distinguished from the cited art. As each of independent claims 15, 20, 31, and 45 include features similar to those discussed above, each of these claims are patentably distinguished as well.

Applicant believes all claims to be in condition for allowance. Should the examiner have any questions or believe there are still reasons withhold allowing the present application to proceed to issuance, the below signed representative would greatly appreciate a telephone call at (512) 853-8866 in order to facilitate a rapid resolution.

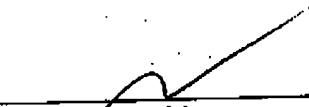
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CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5266-05200/RDR.

Respectfully submitted,



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